

16. (Twice amended) An aboveground storage tank for flammable and combustible liquids having secondary containment capability, comprising:

an inner primary tank for storing the liquid wherein the inner primary tank is hot rolled carbon steel;

an outer secondary tank encasing the inner primary tank defining an interstitial area therebetween wherein the secondary tank is hot rolled carbon steel;

an insulating foam material disposed of in the interstitial area wherein the foam material is a synthetic polymer;

a fire resistant polymer material sandwiched between the foam material and the outer secondary tank so that a fire resistant composite comprised of insulating foam and fire resistant polymer encases the primary tank wherein the fire resistant polymer is an aramid polymer fiber;

an interstitial leak sensor for monitoring leakage of the inner primary tank;

a first venting means for venting the inner primary tank;

a second venting means for venting the interstitial area containing the fire resistant composite; and

a support means to form a base for a generator apparatus so that the generator is supported by the top surface of the fuel storage tank thereby reducing the space required for the generator apparatus.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the nonfinal Examiner's Action mailed 06/14/2002 and all references cited therein. The amendment appearing above and these explanatory remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Action. Accordingly, this important patent application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant responds to the outstanding Action by centered headings that correspond to the centered headings employed by the Office, to ensure full response on the merits to each finding of the Office.

Objection - 35 U.S.C. 132

The Office has objected to the amendment filed by the applicant on April 15, 2002, citing the improper introduction of new matter. The applicant acknowledges that 35 U.S.C. § 132